

courtesy of

ARK - Arizona Rivulin Keepers

The Scheel Letters, No. 37

Egg Development in *Aphyosemion sjoestedti* (continued)

- 10 Jan. 60: another 81 ripe or nearly ripe eggs removed.
- 12 Jan. 60: another 77 ripe eggs. In the bowl there are now 13 eggs with very small but slightly pigmented embryos plus 92 eggs with transparent embryos or no embryos.
- 16 Jan. 60: 14 ripe eggs removed.
- 19 Jan. 60: another 27 ripe eggs.
- 22 Jan. 60: another 30 ripe eggs.
- 24 Jan. 60: another 12 ripe eggs. In the bowl only 21 eggs are left: 7 with small pigmented embryos (pigments can not be seen with the naked eye), 14 with transparent embryos or no embryos. Of these, 10 were sent to Wickler.
- 31 Jan. 60: 8 ripe eggs removed. 3 transparent eggs left.
- 07 Feb. 60: small pigmented embryos in the last eggs.

That is to say that a total of 392 eggs developed (Wickler's included) between 19 Dec. 59 and 07 Feb. 60. Only 6 eggs were lost (fungus). 28 eggs were lost before 19 Dec. 59. If this data is plotted into a diagram (days/eggs developed) you will have a curve, rather regular. From this you may take the following information:

10% eggs developed after 58 days
20% eggs developed after 62 days
30% eggs developed after 67 days
40% eggs developed after 70 days
50% eggs developed after 71 days
60% eggs developed after 73 days
70% eggs developed after 75 days
80% eggs developed after 78 days
90% eggs developed after 83 days
100% eggs developed after 100 days

Temperature of 22-23 C was very constant (inner fishroom). The water was the usual "rainforest" type. Storage was in one 2 liter plastic box with free entrance of air. Frequent changes of water were made because of evaporation. Development runs very quickly between the 60th and the 80th day. Compared

with the scant information on egg development in dried peat, this development did progress rather fast. Foersch's results might be explained this way: during storage in slightly moist peat the eggs did not get a sufficient oxygen supply and because of this they were forced into the state of "resting eggs". However, after washing and restoring, they got enough oxygen to finish the development within 4 weeks.